

Minutes for the Reservoir Committee meeting of June 17, 2014 at 7:30 pm

In attendance: David White, Stephan Miller, Rachel James, Martine Gougault, and Michael Ratner.

The minutes from the May meeting were accepted without amendment.

Covenant School Reservoir Guide. David printed copies of the guide and posted it on the Reservoir and garden kiosks.

Report on May 31 work day. The garden kiosk was installed and the volunteers from the Covenant School removed much of the knotweed along the path from the parking lot to the garden. David suggested that we plant grass on the raw soil left from the knotweed removal so that the weeds will be inhibited and to encourage the DPW to mow that area. Rachel would like to make a sign to credit the volunteers who help us with maintaining the area.

Other summer projects. On future work days, we would like to plant grass, move plants from the garden to the parking lot island, and stain the new kiosk. David and Martine visited the Lowell St. Woods to survey what needs to be done on that section of the reservoir grounds. David told us that there are Burning Bush plants which need to be removed. They suggested that we concentrate on the path connecting the street to the reservoir and remove the garlic mustard, the bittersweet and the knotweed. Rachel would like to plant meadow anemones and columbines along the path. Martine felt that this work would spur interest in the reservoir among the Lexington neighbors.

Rachel told us that there have been recent major habitat renovations at Fresh Pond and perhaps we could learn from them. We thought that we should request an informational interview with the Friends of Fresh Pond. David will look into it. Michael suggested that we get in touch with the AMC because they are involved in clearing trails in local open spaces. He thought that perhaps they could help with trail work at the Reservoir and Great Meadows. David and Martine will draw up plans to be presented to the Arlington and Lexington Conservation Commissions before we begin work in the woods.

Educational materials and signage. Stephan will bring plant labels to the next work day. Rachel and Martine will fill out the labels and we will mark some of the plants in the garden. David said that he would post some of the pictures made by the Covenant students on the garden kiosk.

Watering schedule. We decided that the garden is mature enough to fend for itself so it probably won't need watering this summer. We will water only if the weather is extremely dry.

Across Lexington Trails. David informed us that there will be no trail through LexFarm. The trail along the northern edge of the Reservoir will be incorporated into the Lexington Trail system.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm